

PENSION PIONEERS.

Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

G. H. T., Syracuse, N. Y.—Dependent parents' rate of pension under act of June 27, 1890, has always been held to be \$12 per month, and under a decision rendered in September last, if the soldier incurred the fatal disability while holding the rank of commissioned officer, the parent's rate of pension may be higher than \$12, according to the rank the son held. The effect of late decisions of the Department of the Interior is that all pension claims of dependent parents filed since June 27, 1890, must be regarded as made under the general law as amended by Section 1 of the act of June 27, 1890. It is held that the fee law of 1884 does not apply to such claims, and that the fee therein may be only \$10, as provided by the act of 1890 for claims made under that act.

J. M., Bridgeport, O.—The matter of the soldier's income from any source does not enter into the question of title to invalid pension under the act of June 27, 1890. The act of March 2, 1895, fixing the minimum rate of invalid pension at \$6 per month, applied to general law pensioners, the act of 1890 having prescribed the same minimum rate for invalid pensioners thereafter.

M. A. C., Warrington, Fla.—It is hardly likely that any bill to continue the pensions of invalid pensioners re-entering the military or naval service of the United States will become a law. The original fundamental principle of granting invalid pensions was and still is that the recipients are unfit for service by reason of physical disability.

L. S. C., Carthage, Mo.—The \$36 rate is allowed only in cases where the status of the arm is at or above the elbow joint. It is not required that the amputation be precisely at the joint.

M. B., Winchester, N. H.—When you write letters to a newspaper you should have confidence enough in the editor to sign your name. The matter in question should be referred to the Congress from your District.

DEPARTMENT AND CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.—The bill, Senate No. 1477, to wipe out the Hoke Smith-Lochen construction of the pension law of June 27, 1890, which made the pension of a soldier, still standing in the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House, although the bill was supposed to be ready weeks ago to be reported back to the House. It would be well to expect to see the bill in the House, and stir up the matter, and at the same time write their own bill to be introduced in Congress about securing action on the bill.

MICHIGAN AFFAIRS.

Interesting Report from the Department Correspondent.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: It would be hard to find a more successful pensioner than Corps 152. They are loyal to the Department, to the Grand Army, to each other, and, above all, to the flag. They have one member to whom it is a positive pain to see the flag lowered at sunset. She knows from experience what the salvation of the flag cost the woman of the "60's." Last Fall the Corps presented to the school a very handsome silver flag. The spokesman on the occasion was Chaplain Fidelity L. Dean; the Corps President, Harriet Hull, carrying the flag. In addition to the presentation of the flag, they have bought for Corps 152 a set of the best silver-plated knives and forks. One of the most popular ways of raising money is by tea.

The relief work for 1899 was in the hands of a woman who says she "loves the work." She has proved her assertion by her deeds. The Relief Committee reports having made 129 visits and secured relief as follows: Money, \$2,115; other than money, \$43.35. Mrs. Hull was installed President for a third term in January. The growth of the Grand Army has been rapid. Corps 152 for the last seven or eight years has been steady. It begins 1900 with a membership of 86. Many members live to too great a degree to attend to Corps meetings. Average attendance is 30. They are all well, and have little social gatherings among themselves, and to the sick or lonely they are especially particular to show a friendly interest.

The W.R.C. of Dimondale, Mich., is a busy, bustling, active Corps, with a spirit of harmony and unity prevailing. In the Spring of 1897, the Corps decided to build a brick veneered two-story house, which stands today not only an ornament, but a credit to our Order and the Corps of Dimondale. At the opening of the year 1898 we found ourselves with a debt to the amount of \$775. We had secured a mortgage of \$500 on the building, and the amount of \$275 and two thirds of \$50 more unpaid. At the opening of the present year, 1900, we had cancelled the bills, notes, and applied \$50 on the mortgage, besides paying taxes, interest, and insurance, which had been paid for two years. For two years we have rented the lower rooms for store purposes for \$100 per year. We have also held two fairs, the first netting the last \$50. The fairs have been successful, and entertainments have been held, with more or less success. Lincoln's birthday has been fully celebrated each year, the last in connection with the drawing, which was a financial success. Mrs. Agnes Wiley, of Albion, Department Chaplain, inspected our Corps work last year with satisfaction. She has also been to our aid in visiting the sick and afflicted and a large number of new members have joined our ranks, and at this time there is a confident feeling that with a little more time and hard work every dollar of the mortgage will soon be cancelled.

Stanton Corps, 8, Stanton, with Stanton Post, 37, and the Sons of Veterans, celebrated Lincoln's birthday with a grand program. In the morning the three Orders listened to a patriotic sermon by Rev. E. J. D. Smith, in a brief speech, called attention to the fact that the Grand Army of the Republic. At a recent meeting four members were admitted by muster, one by transfer, and three applications for membership were received. Stirling patriotic speeches were made by some of the new members.

Memorial Post. Department of Post and Corps and Clara Barton Post, 37, and the Sons of Veterans, celebrated Lincoln's birthday with a grand program. In the morning the three Orders listened to a patriotic sermon by Rev. E. J. D. Smith, in a brief speech, called attention to the fact that the Grand Army of the Republic. At a recent meeting four members were admitted by muster, one by transfer, and three applications for membership were received. Stirling patriotic speeches were made by some of the new members.

The Arlington Chapter celebrated the occasion with a choice selection. A loud call from the W.R.C. and D. of V. demanded the immediate attention of the veterans and their

invited guests in the banquet room, while the young people tripped the light fantastic toe in the Post room.—F. D. MCGILLICUDDY, Historian, Memorial Post.

Flags for Philippine Schools.

The flags for the schools of the Philippine Islands, which were forwarded by Lafayette Post, 140, Department of New York, in November last, to the Department of the Interior for distribution under orders from the War Department, have been heard from.

It was in the line of the patriotic work of the Department of the Interior, and in connection with the 600 bunting flags, four by six, taken to Porto Rico by Commander Allan C. Bakewell, and the rank of commissioned officer, the parent's rate of pension may be higher than \$12, according to the rank the son held. The effect of late decisions of the Department of the Interior is that all pension claims of dependent parents filed since June 27, 1890, must be regarded as made under the general law as amended by Section 1 of the act of June 27, 1890. It is held that the fee law of 1884 does not apply to such claims, and that the fee therein may be only \$10, as provided by the act of 1890 for claims made under that act.

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REAR SECRET.

Remarkable Discovery Whereby Every Lady May Now Attain the Perfect Bloom of Youth.

A Free Trial Package Sent by Mail, Prepaid and Sealed in Plain Wrapper, to All Who Send Name and Address.

It has remained for a Cincinnati woman to discover the secret of a perfect skin. She has at last found the key to feminine beauty. All the sighs and heartaches over a poor appearance may now be banished, for it is within the means of every lady, young or middle-aged, to have the clearest and most refined complexion, so dear to the heart of every man.

MRS. DERT KILEY. A woman's heart. And, what is still more pleasing and satisfying to her, she has discovered this great secret, sends free to every woman who writes a sufficient quantity of the beautiful "Rear Secret" to the lady who has discovered it, and who has written to her, "I am perfectly delighted with the result of my trial. My complexion is now a beautiful pink, and my skin is as soft as velvet. I have a beautiful home, and my husband never before has been so happy and contented. Every lady ought to send for one, and get a free trial."

A Brave Colonel. The battle of the Hatcher River, where General Grant and the entire army of Price and Van Dorn, as they retreated before the advance of the Union army, fought a battle at Corinth, early in the morning of their skirmishes engaged the advance, which had taken up position on the hill some half a mile from the river. The main Confederate army had formed along the base of a high hill on the north side of the river. Their position was well chosen, as they had a direct fire on us as we advanced. The Union army, however, improved it to perfection. For fully three-quarters of a mile we were under artillery fire of the severest character; it seemed that not one of us would live to reach the only sheltered place so directly under their position they could not reach it with a cannon.

The position of our regiment was in a narrow lane. Men were falling thick and fast. Our brave Colonel, M. M. Trumbull, rode at the head of the regiment. At times he would turn and look back at the havoc of death and carnage, and he would be detected in his conference from what it was when on dress parade.

When we came to the narrow bridge which crossed the river, and the colonel, Col. Trumbull, coolly turned in his saddle, saying: "Men, for the honor of your loved ones at home, follow me!" We followed. After crossing he placed the flag, formed a line on it, and gave the order to forward.

In getting in the line was a terrible one, but when the bullets fell thick and fast, and the greatest number of men were being killed, there would you see Trumbull's calm face. He seemed to fear a charmed life, and looked as if death had no terrors for him.

Not only in this battle did he display his worth and bravery, but in many others. He was wounded in the leg, and he never again forgot his kind and brave command and commander.—FRANK EVANS, Co. I, 3d Iowa, Chicago.

Organization of a U. V. U. Regiment. A Regiment of the Union Veterans' Unit was instituted at Rutland, Vt., March 2. The Regiment belongs to the Division of New Hampshire and Vermont. Major-General W. B. Smith, Past Division Commander, is President. The officers elected are as follows: Col. W. B. Smith; Lieut.-Col. C. H. Chapman; Maj. John Warrington; Chap. A. C. Bailey.

Northwestern Iowa Veterans Association. The Northwestern Iowa Veterans Association has invited soldiers of the Spanish-American war to participate in the Encampment to be held at Rock Rapids, Iowa, June 19, 20, and 21. The association has members of the 52d Iowa and 1st S. D. is expected. Comrade R. M. Church is Commander and Geo. Monlux Adjutant of the Association.

MUSTERED OUT. SUTHERLAND.—At Rollag, Minn., Feb. 27, James R. Sutherland, Co. C, 2d Me., was mustered out. He was killed by being thrown from a load of coal. He was a brave and noble soldier, and his death was a great loss to his comrades.

At Fair Grove, Mo., Jan. 22, E. A. Webb, Co. E, 6th Mo. Cav., aged 58, was a member of Fair Grove Post, 46. He was survived by a widow and several children.

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IN THE OLD BAY STATE.

Loyal Orders Meet in Boston and Elect Officers.

The recent Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts held in Faneuil Hall, Boston, on an auspicious day, March 18, 1899, was a grand affair. It was the largest ever held in the city, and was attended by comrades from all parts of the "Old Bay State." Commander John E. Gilman presided, using a fine address. The following officers were elected: John E. Gilman, President; Elizabeth A. Turner, Vice-President; and others.

He fully reviewed the work of the year in the Massachusetts Department, and then took up subjects of more general interest to the veterans of the war. Regarding the pension question he said in part:

There is no legislation that so nearly affects the interests of our comrades as that of pensions. Ever since 1862 Congress has been busy with consideration, and many laws have been enacted. The National Encampments, backed up by the Department from time to time, petitioned the National lawmakers for the passage of laws which, in their opinion, would be a benefit to the veterans. Many laws have been passed that they have been very complicated and hard to understand. The National Encampment, that was made in Philadelphia last September by the National Pension Committee, gave a most able and exhaustive presentation of the present pension laws, and the manner in which they are executed. The report was followed by a supplementary report, which set forth the objectionable features of the present pension laws as presented by the Department.

He then called the attention of the Encampment to a bill now before Congress to correct the errors of certain soldiers of the civil war. The bill is in effect to grant honorable discharges to deserters, and has caused a storm of protest from the ranks of the army, and Commander Gilman stated that there was little chance for the enactment of the law, but that he would continue to fight for it.

The Veterans Preference in Employment Bill (Senate Bill 3256) was fully explained by the Commander, who heartily approved of its enactment.

Commander Gilman paid a high tribute to the W.R.C. and the Sons of Veterans.

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MAINE DEPARTMENT, W. R. C.

Interesting sessions were held by the Department of Maine, W. R. C., much more business was transacted. The following officers were elected: Pres. Mrs. Hattie C. Sprague, Sec. Mrs. J. P. Sprague, Treas. Mrs. J. P. Sprague, and others.

The State W. R. C. also held sessions during the G.A.R. Encampment, and elected the following officers: Pres. Mrs. Orrville Gilpatrick, Sec. Mrs. J. P. Sprague, Treas. Mrs. J. P. Sprague, and others.

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CURES WEAK MEN FREE.

Send Name and Address To-day---You Can Have It Free and be Strong and Vigorous for Life.

INSURES LOVE AND A HAPPY HOME.



How many men can quickly cure themselves of the weakness of youth, and become strong and vigorous? The answer is, "Yes, if they use the right medicine." The result was exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have been completely returned and I am entirely satisfied.

"Dear Sir—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in strength and vigor. All correspondence is strictly confidential. The receipt is free for the asking and he wants every man to have it."

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